



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EP 1771

Applicant: Ramesh Keshavaraj
Serial Number: 09/876,702
Filed: June 7, 2001
Title: AIR BAG TETHER CONSTRUCTION
Group Art Unit: 1771
Examiner: Singh, Arti R.

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JUL 23 2002

TC 1700

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and all correspondence referenced herein as being enclosed with this correspondence, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231" with sufficient postage on the following date: July 9, 2002.

Signature:

Name: Alissa D. Kohlman

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

RESPONSE

In response to the Official Action dated April 9, 2002, Paper No. 3, please consider the following Remarks for entry of record.

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TC 1700Remarks

The Examiner has provisionally rejected Claims 1-4 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, as being unpatentable over Claims 1-21 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/828,081. The Examiner contends that, although the claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they both encompass the same article (that is, a textile fabric blank used in air bags) and is thus either the same article or an obvious variant. U.S. Patent Application No. 09/828,081 and the instant application are commonly owned by Milliken & Company. Applicant respectfully requests leave to file an appropriate terminal disclaimer until such time as the Examiner confirms that the claims herein are otherwise in condition for allowance.

Having addressed the issue of a terminal disclaimer, Applicant respectfully requests that prosecution on the merits proceed.

July 9, 2002

Milliken & Company
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Respectfully requested,

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